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ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN

Report of the Third Committee

Rapporteur: Mrs. Mónica MARTÍNEZ (Ecuador)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 4th plenary meeting, on 19 September 1997, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-second session the item entitled "Advancement of women" and to allocate it to the Third Committee.

2. The Third Committee considered the item jointly with item 106 at its 7th to 12th meetings, from 20 to 23 October 1997, and took action on the item at its 18th, 24th, 28th to 31st and 37th meetings, on 28 October and 3, 6, 7, 10 and 14 November 1997. An account of the Committee's discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.3/52/SR.7-12, 18, 24, 28-31 and 37).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Relevant sections of the report of the Economic and Social Council for 1997 (A/52/3);[1]

(b) Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (A/52/38/Rev.1);[2]

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[1] To be issued in final form as Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/52/3/Rev.1).

[2] Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/52/38/Rev.1).

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on the improvement of the situation of women in rural areas (A/52/326);

(d) Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (A/52/337);

(e) Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (A/52/352);

(f) Report of the Secretary-General on traffic in women and girls (A/52/355);

(g) Report of the Secretary-General on violence against women migrant workers (A/52/356);

(h) Report of the Secretary-General on the improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat (A/52/408);

(i) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report on the activities of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (A/52/300);

(j) Letter dated 14 April 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting a copy of the report on the policy of ethnic cleansing/genocide conducted in the territory of Abkhazia, Georgia, and the necessity of bringing to justice the persons who committed these crimes (A/52/116-S/1997/317);

(k) Letter dated 1 October 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Colombia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the communiqué of the Meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs and Heads of Delegation of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries (A/52/447-S/1997/775);

(l) Letter dated 13 October 1997 from the Permanent Representative of the United Republic of Tanzania to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the Ministerial Declaration of the Group of 77 adopted on the occasion of the twenty-first annual meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Group of 77, held at United Nations Headquarters on 26 September 1997 (A/52/460);

(m) Letter dated 12 November 1997 from the Permanent Representative of the Dominican Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/C.3/52/8).

4. At the 7th meeting, on 20 October, introductory statements were made by the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women, the Director of the United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, and the Deputy Director of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (see A/C.3/52/SR.7).

5. At the 9th meeting, on 21 October, a statement was made by the Chairperson of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (see A/C.3/52/SR.9).

II. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS

A. Draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.15/Rev.1

6. At the 31st meeting, on 10 November, the representative of Mongolia, on behalf of Bangladesh, Belgium, Bhutan, Burkina Faso, Canada, China, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Ethiopia, Finland, Germany, Georgia, Greece, Guinea, Haiti, Indonesia, Ireland, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mongolia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, the Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, the Philippines, Portugal, San Marino, Senegal, South Africa, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, Turkey, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia, introduced a revised draft resolution entitled "Improvement of the situation of women in rural areas" (A/C.3/52/L.15/Rev.1) and further revised it orally as follows:

(a) In the eighth preambular paragraph, the word "many" was inserted before the words "developing countries" and the words "and will continue to be so in the years to come" were deleted;

(b) In operative paragraph 2, subparagraph (g), the words "policies and" were inserted before the word "programmes".

7. At the 37th meeting, on 14 November, Barbados, Benin, Botswana, Gabon, Guyana, Iceland, India, Israel, Italy, Malawi, Mali, Solomon Islands, Tajikistan and Viet Nam joined in sponsoring the draft resolution; Mauritania, Pakistan and Senegal withdrew as sponsors of the draft resolution.

8. Also at the 37th meeting, general statements were made by the representatives of the Sudan, Iraq, Bahrain, Zambia and South Africa. Subsequently, the representatives of Morocco, Oman, Mauritania, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Pakistan, the United Arab Emirates, Djibouti, Qatar and Jordan made statements in explanation of position (see A/C.3/52/SR.37).

9. At the 37th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.15/Rev.1, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 32, draft resolution I).

10. After the adoption of the draft resolution, the representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya made a statement (see A/C.3/52/SR.37).

B. Draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.16/Rev.1[3]

11. At the 28th meeting, on 6 November, the representative of Norway, on behalf of the Bahamas, Canada, Chile, Denmark, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Japan, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, the Philippines, Poland, Romania, Singapore, South

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[3] The draft resolution was also considered under agenda item 106, entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women" (see A/52/638).

Africa, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania and the United States of America, introduced a revised draft resolution entitled "United Nations Development Fund for Women" (A/C.3/52/L.16/Rev.1).

12. At the 30th meeting, on 7 November, Austria, Finland, Italy, Malaysia and Sweden joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

13. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.16/Rev.1 without a vote (see para. 32, draft resolution II).

C. Draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.17

14. At the 18th meeting, on 28 October, the representative of the United Republic of Tanzania, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, Austria, Mexico, the Netherlands, Spain and Turkey, introduced a draft resolution entitled "International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women" (A/C.3/52/L.17). Subsequently, Israel joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

15. At the 24th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.17 without a vote (see para. 32, draft resolution III).

D. Draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.18

16. At the 24th meeting, on 3 November, the representative of Canada, on behalf of Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, the Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Singapore, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, the Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United Republic of Tanzania and the United States of America, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat" (A/C.3/52/L.18).

17. In introducing the draft resolution, the representative of Canada orally revised it as follows:

(a) After the second preambular paragraph, a new preambular paragraph was added, reading:

"Recalling also its resolutions 51/67 of 12 December 1996 and 51/226 C of 3 April 1997 on the status of women in the Secretariat";

(b) In operative paragraph 2, the words "certain countries, including developing countries and countries with economies in transition" were replaced by the words "women from certain countries, in particular from developing countries as well as countries with economies in transition".

18. At the 29th meeting, on 7 November, Azerbaijan, the Bahamas, Burundi, Colombia, Croatia, Guyana, India, Namibia, Suriname, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Venezuela, Viet Nam and Zambia joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

19. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.18, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 32, draft resolution IV).

E. Draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.19

20. At the 18th meeting, on 28 October, the representative of the Philippines, on behalf of Argentina, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Cape Verde, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Indonesia, Ireland, Mongolia, Nigeria, Peru, the Philippines, Portugal, Sri Lanka, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Zambia, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Violence against women migrant workers" (A/C.3/52/L.19).

21. In introducing the draft resolution, the representative of the Philippines orally revised it as follows:

(a) In the seventh preambular paragraph, the word "Stressing" was replaced by the word "Recognizing";

(b) In operative paragraph 3, the word "including" was inserted after the words "migrant workers", the word "including" was deleted before the words "by developing strategies", and the word "the" was inserted before the word "innovative".

22. At the 24th meeting, on 3 November, Israel, Liberia, Malawi, Morocco, the Netherlands, Pakistan and Uruguay joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

23. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.19, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 32, draft resolution V).

F. Draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.20/Rev.1

24. At the 24th meeting, on 3 November, the representative of the Philippines, on behalf of Argentina, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, France, Greece, Guatemala, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, the Philippines, Portugal, San Marino, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Ukraine, introduced a revised draft resolution entitled "Traffic in women and girls" (A/C.3/52/L.20/Rev.1).

25. At the 29th meeting, on 7 November, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Guyana, Ireland, Israel, Kenya, the Netherlands, Poland, Thailand and Turkmenistan joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

26. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.20/Rev.1 without a vote (see para. 32, draft resolution VI).

G. Draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.21

27. At the 24th meeting, on 3 November, the representative of the Netherlands, on behalf of Afghanistan, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bhutan, Botswana, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Monaco, Mozambique, Namibia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Sweden, Turkey, Uganda, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Uruguay and Zambia, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls" (A/C.3/52/L.21).

28. At the 29th meeting, on 7 November, Armenia, Brazil, Colombia, the Czech Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Estonia, Guinea, Iceland, Latvia, Lesotho, Malawi, Malaysia, Malta, Mauritius, the Philippines, Slovakia, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Ukraine joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

29. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.21 without a vote (see para. 32, draft resolution VII).

30. After the draft resolution was adopted, the representative of the Netherlands made a statement (see A/C.3/52/SR.29).

H. Draft decision

31. At its 37th meeting, on 14 November, on the proposal of the Chairperson, the Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that it take note of the following reports (see para. 33):

(a) Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (A/52/38/Rev.1);[2]

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (A/52/337);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (A/52/352).

III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE

32. The Third Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

Improvement of the situation of women in rural areas

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 34/14 of 9 November 1979, in which it endorsed the Declaration of Principles and the Programme of Action as adopted by the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development,[4] and its resolutions 44/78 of 8 December 1989, 48/109 of 20 December 1993 and 50/165 of 22 December 1995,

Recalling also the importance attached to the problems of rural women by the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women[5] and by the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[6]

Recalling further its resolution 47/174 of 22 December 1992, in which it welcomed the adoption of the Geneva Declaration for Rural Women by the Summit on the Economic Advancement of Rural Women, held at Geneva in February 1992,[7] and urged all States to work for the achievement of the goals endorsed in that Declaration,

Welcoming the growing awareness of Governments of the need for strategies and programmes to improve the situation of women in rural areas,

Welcoming also the Declaration and Plan of Action adopted by the Microcredit Summit, held at Washington, D.C., in February 1997, in which micro-finance was identified as an important instrument of poverty alleviation, including for rural women,[8]

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[4] See Report of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development, Rome, 12-20 July 1979 (WCARRD/REP), transmitted to the General Assembly by a note by the Secretary-General (A/34/485).

[5] Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.

[6] Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[7] A/47/308-E/1992/97, annex.

[8] A/52/113-E/1997/18, annex I.

Noting with deep concern that the economic and financial crises in many developing countries have severely affected the socio-economic status of women, especially in rural areas, and the continuing rise in the number of rural women living in poverty, including girls and older women,

Mindful of the need for fuller recognition and appreciation of the contribution of rural women to socio-economic development, including human capital development,

Mindful also that despite the global trend towards rapid urbanization, many developing countries are still largely rural,

Recognizing the urgent need to take appropriate measures aimed at further improving the situation of women in rural areas,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the improvement of the situation of women in rural areas;[9]

2. Invites Member States, in their efforts to implement the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, the World Conference on Human Rights, the International Conference on Population and Development, the World Summit for Social Development, the Fourth World Conference on Women, the World Food Summit, and the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), bearing in mind also the Geneva Declaration for Rural Women, to attach greater importance to the improvement of the situation of rural women, including older women, in their national development strategies, paying special attention to both their practical and strategic needs, by, inter alia:

(a) Integrating the concerns of rural women into national development policies and programmes, in particular by placing a higher priority on budgetary allocation related to the interests of rural women;

(b) Strengthening national machineries and establishing institutional linkages among governmental bodies in various sectors and non-governmental organizations that are concerned with rural development;

(c) Increasing the awareness of rural women of their rights and their role in political and socio-economic development;

(d) Increasing the participation of rural women in the decision-making process at the local and national levels;

(e) Designing and revising laws to ensure that women have equal access to and control over land, unmediated by male relatives, in order to end land rights discrimination; according women secure use rights and full representation in the decision-making bodies that allocate land and other forms of property, credit, information and new technologies; and, in the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action, according women full and equal rights to own land and other

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[9] A/52/326.

property, inter alia, through inheritance; land reform programmes should begin by acknowledging the equality of women's rights to land and take other measures to increase land availability to poor women and men;

(f) Investing in the human resources of rural women, particularly through health and literacy programmes and social support measures;

(g) Promoting and strengthening micro-financing policies and programmes, cooperatives and other employment opportunities;

(h) Ensuring that women's unpaid work and contributions to on-farm and off-farm production, including income generated in the informal sector, are visible and recorded in economic surveys and statistics at the national level;

3. Requests the international community and relevant United Nations organizations and bodies to promote further the realization of the programmes and projects aimed at the improvement of the situation of rural women within the overall framework of integrated follow-up to recent global conferences;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to prepare, in consultation with Member States and relevant United Nations organizations, a report on the implementation of the present resolution and to submit it, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session.

DRAFT RESOLUTION II

United Nations Development Fund for Women

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 31/133 of 16 December 1976, in which it established the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women, and the Beijing Platform for Action,[10] which reaffirmed that the Fund had the mandate to increase options and opportunities for women's economic and social development in developing countries,

Recalling also its resolution 39/125 of 14 December 1984, by which it decided to make the United Nations Development Fund for Women a separate and identifiable entity in autonomous association with the United Nations Development Programme,

Stressing the important contribution the Fund continues to make in providing technical assistance to enable Governments and organizations of the United Nations system as well as other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to formulate and support policies and innovative activities that directly benefit and empower women,

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[10] Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1996 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.1996.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

Considering the innovative and experimental activities of the Fund directed towards strengthening both governmental and non-governmental institutional capacities to ensure for women access to development cooperation resources and full participation at all levels in the development process,

Taking note of the importance of the work of the Consultative Committee on the United Nations Development Fund for Women in policy and programme directions, in accordance with the mandate of the Fund,

1. Takes note of the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report on the activities of the United Nations Development Fund for Women;[11]

2. Emphasizes the important work of the Fund in women's empowerment and gender equality within the framework of implementing the Beijing Platform for Action, and in that context notes the recently adopted strategy and business plan;

3. Reaffirms the catalytic role of the Fund in further developing and strengthening women's empowerment by enhancing the integration of a gender perspective into all development programmes, in accordance with its mandate;

4. Stresses the role of the Fund as a development fund in supporting activities related to women's economic and social development in developing countries;

5. Notes the intention of the Fund further to focus its interventions in support of women's empowerment and gender equality;

6. Encourages the Fund to continue to contribute to mainstreaming a gender perspective into all development efforts of Governments, organizations of the United Nations system and civil society;

7. Also encourages the Fund to strengthen its work within the United Nations system at the national level through the resident coordinator system, focusing on strategic interventions and building upon its comparative advantages, in order to promote systemic change, in particular with regard to women's political and economic empowerment;

8. Endorses the role of the Fund in strengthening women's economic capacity, encouraging women to become key economic players in combating the feminization of poverty and strengthening women's leadership and political empowerment in order to increase their participation in decision-making processes;

9. Recognizes the important role the Fund plays in promoting the realization of women's civil, cultural, economic, political and social rights so as to facilitate their full participation in society;

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[11] A/52/300, annex.

10. Welcomes the operationalization of the Trust Fund in Support of Action to Eliminate Violence against Women, and requests the United Nations Development Fund for Women to disseminate information on best practices and strategic interventions funded under that initiative which should contribute to the eradication of violence against women as an obstacle to development;

11. Encourages the United Nations Development Fund for Women to continue to mobilize resources for its activities, in order to fulfil its mandate, in a comprehensive manner from all available sources, including the private sector, and urges all Member States to contribute and to consider increasing their contributions to it;

12. Requests the Secretary-General to transmit to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session a report on the activities of the United Nations Development Fund for Women, to be submitted in accordance with resolution 39/125.

DRAFT RESOLUTION III

International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 50/163 of 22 December 1995,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/39 of 25 July 1996,

Taking note also of the report of the Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women on its seventeenth session,[12]

Reaffirming paragraph 334 of the Platform for Action adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women at Beijing on 15 September 1995,[13]

Concerned about the declining resource base of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women,

1. Welcomes the appointment of the Director of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women and takes note with appreciation of the work done by the previous Acting Director;

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[12] E/1997/53.

[13] Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

2. Urges the Secretary-General to fill the existing vacancies in the Institute in order to permit it to carry out its mandate;

3. Emphasizes the role of the Institute as the only gender unit for research and training within the United Nations system and reiterates the relevant provisions contained in the agreed conclusions of the Economic and Social Council;[14]

4. Requests the Institute to continue its cooperation with relevant entities of the United Nations system;

5. Also requests the Institute to better coordinate its activities for gender mainstreaming with relevant entities of the United Nations system with a view to developing joint activities and work plans in appropriate areas;

6. Welcomes the fact that in its activities the Institute places a high priority on the obstacles that limit or impede women from becoming equal partners in development;

7. Expresses its appreciation to those Governments and organizations that have contributed to and supported the activities of the Institute;

8. Invites Member States, intergovernmental organizations, the private sector and civil society to contribute generously to the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, thus enabling the Institute to respond effectively to its mandate;

9. Requests the Director of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women to develop a funding strategy and to establish a link between the activities of the Institute and its resource base;

10. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

DRAFT RESOLUTION IV

Improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat

The General Assembly,

Recalling Articles 1 and 101 of the Charter of the United Nations, as well as Article 8, which provides that the United Nations shall place no restrictions on the eligibility of men and women to participate in any capacity and under conditions of equality in its principal and subsidiary organs,

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[14] A/52/3, chap. IV, sect. B, agreed conclusions 1997/3. To be issued in final form as Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/52/3/Rev.1).

Recalling the goal contained in the Platform for Action[15] adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women for the achievement of overall gender equality, particularly at the Professional level and above, by the year 2000,

Recalling also its resolution 51/67 of 12 December 1996 and 51/226 C of 3 April 1997 on the status of women in the Secretariat,

Welcoming the achievement of the interim goal set in Assembly resolution 45/125 of 14 December 1990 of a 35 per cent overall participation rate of women in posts subject to geographical distribution,

Concerned that the interim goal set in Assembly resolution 45/239 C of 21 December 1990 of a 25 per cent participation rate of women in posts at the D-1 level and above is still far from being achieved, and that the representation of women at that level remains unacceptably low,

1. Welcomes the report of the Secretary-General and the recommendations contained therein;[16]

2. Reaffirms the goal of 50/50 gender distribution by the year 2000 in all categories of posts within the United Nations system, especially at the D-1 level and above, with full respect for the principle of equitable geographical distribution, in conformity with Article 101 of the Charter of the United Nations, and also taking into account the lack of representation or under-representation of women from certain countries, in particular from developing countries as well as countries with economies in transition;

3. Welcomes the personal commitment of the Secretary-General to meeting that goal, and his assurance that gender balance will be given the highest priority in his continuing efforts to bring about a new management culture in the Organization;

4. Calls upon the Secretary-General to implement fully and monitor the strategic plan of action for the improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat (1995-2000)[17] in order to achieve the goal of 50/50 gender distribution by the year 2000, especially at the D-1 level and above;

5. Encourages the Secretary-General to appoint more women as special representatives and envoys and to pursue good offices on his behalf in matters related to peacekeeping, preventive diplomacy, and economic and social development, as well as to appoint more women to other high-level positions;

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[15] Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995 (United Nations publication, Sales No. 96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[16] A/52/408.

[17] A/49/587 and Corr.1 and sect. IV.

6. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure that individual managers are held accountable to implementing the strategic plan within their areas of responsibility;

7. Also requests the Secretary-General to continue his work to create a gender-sensitive work environment supportive of the needs of his staff, both women and men, including through the development of policies for flexible working time, workplace possibilities, family leave, child-care and elder care needs, as well as through training, particularly at senior levels, and the implementation of all appropriate administrative procedures, in particular the special measures outlined in his report,[16] and through further development of a policy against sexual harassment;

8. Further requests the Secretary-General to enable the Focal Point for Women in the Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women to effectively monitor and facilitate progress in the implementation of the strategic plan, including by ensuring access to the information required to carry out that work;

9. Strongly encourages Member States to support the efforts of the United Nations and the specialized agencies to achieve the goal of 50/50 gender distribution, especially at the D-1 level and above, by identifying and regularly submitting more women candidates and encouraging more women to apply for those positions within the Secretariat, the specialized agencies and the regional commissions;

10. Requests the Secretary-General to report on the implementation of the present resolution, including by providing statistics on the number and percentage of women in all organizational units and at all levels throughout the United Nations system, to the Commission on the Status of Women at its forty-second session and to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session.

DRAFT RESOLUTION V

Violence against women migrant workers

The General Assembly,

Recalling all previous resolutions on violence against women migrant workers adopted by the General Assembly, the Commission on the Status of Women, the Commission on Human Rights and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, as well as the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women,[18]

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[18] Resolution 48/104.

Reaffirming the outcome of the World Conference on Human Rights,[19] the International Conference on Population and Development,[20] the World Summit for Social Development[21] and the Fourth World Conference on Women,[22] specifically as the results pertain to women migrant workers,

Emphasizing the need for accurate, objective and comprehensive information, as well as for a wide exchange of experiences and lessons learned by individual countries in protecting and promoting the rights and welfare of women migrant workers for policy formulation and joint action,

Acknowledging the results of the Expert Group Meeting on Violence against Women Migrant Workers, held at Manila from 27 to 31 May 1996, and the comments thereon by Member States and relevant international organizations,

Noting the large numbers of women from developing countries and some countries with economies in transition who continue to venture forth to more affluent countries in search of a living for themselves and their families as a consequence of poverty, unemployment and other socio-economic conditions, and acknowledging the duty of the sending States to work for conditions that provide employment and security to their citizens,

Acknowledging the economic benefits that accrue to sending and receiving States from the employment of women migrant workers,

Recognizing the importance of joint and collaborative approaches at the bilateral, regional, interregional and international levels in protecting and promoting the rights and welfare of women migrant workers,

Underlining the important role of relevant United Nations treaty bodies in monitoring the implementation of human rights conventions and the relevant special procedures, within their respective mandates, in addressing the problem of violence against women migrant workers and in protecting and promoting their rights and welfare,

1. Welcomes the report of the Secretary-General on violence against women migrant workers;[23]

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[19] See A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[20] See Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18).

[21] See Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6-12 March 1995 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8).

[22] See Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13).

[23] A/52/356.

2. Encourages concerned Governments, particularly those of sending and receiving countries, to develop, as appropriate, systematic data collection methods and to update and share information on violence against women migrant workers;

3. Urges concerned Governments, particularly those of sending and receiving countries, to strengthen their national efforts to protect and promote the rights and welfare of women migrant workers, including through sustained bilateral, regional, interregional and international cooperation, by developing strategies and joint action and taking into account the innovative approaches and experiences of individual Member States;

4. Urges concerned Governments, particularly those of sending and receiving countries, to support and allocate appropriate resources for programmes aimed at strengthening preventive action, in particular information for relevant target groups, education and campaigns to increase public awareness of this issue at the national and grassroots levels, in cooperation with non-governmental organizations;

5. Encourages concerned Governments, particularly those of sending and receiving countries, to support training programmes for public officials dealing with the problem of violence against women migrant workers, in particular law enforcers, to assist women migrant workers who are victims of violence and in the reporting of such cases and the prosecution of the perpetrators, to provide adequate consular, counselling, legal and welfare services and to consider adopting appropriate legal measures against intermediaries who deliberately encourage the clandestine movement of workers and who exploit women migrant workers;

6. Encourages Member States to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,[24] as well as the Slavery Convention of 1926;[25]

7. Invites all relevant United Nations human rights treaty bodies, particularly the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, relevant thematic and country rapporteurs, particularly the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities and its working groups, within their respective mandates, to address the problem of violence against women migrant workers in their deliberations and findings with a view to promoting and protecting their rights and welfare;

8. Invites the Commission on the Status of Women to address the issue of violence against women migrant workers at its forty-second session under the thematic issues on violence against women and/or human rights of women;

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[24] Resolution 45/158, annex.

[25] United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 212, No. 2861.

9. Invites the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Human Rights at their sessions in 1998 to address the protection and promotion of the rights and welfare of women migrant workers in connection with the five-year review of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action[19] and the commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;[26]

10. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session a comprehensive report on the problem of violence against women migrant workers, taking into account the views of Member States and based on the expertise and all available information from the organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the International Labour Organization, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Development Fund for Women, the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women and the International Organization for Migration, and other relevant sources, including non-governmental organizations, as well as on the implementation of the present resolution.

DRAFT RESOLUTION VI

Traffic in women and girls

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the principles set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[27] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[28] the International Covenants on Human Rights,[29] the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[30] the Convention on the Rights of the Child[31] and the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women,[32]

Recalling the Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others,[33]

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[26] Resolution 217 A (III).

[27] Resolution 217 A (III).

[28] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[29] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[30] Resolution 39/46, annex.

[31] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[32] Resolution 48/104.

[33] Resolution 317 (IV).

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 51/66 of 12 December 1996 on traffic in women and girls,

Reaffirming the provisions of the outcome of the World Conference on Human Rights,[34] the International Conference on Population and Development,[35] the World Summit for Social Development,[36] the Fourth World Conference on Women[37] and the Ninth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders pertaining to the traffic in women and children,[38]

Noting with concern the increasing number of women and girl children from developing countries and from some countries with economies in transition who are being victimized by traffickers, and acknowledging that the problem of trafficking also includes the victimizing of young boys,

Emphasizing the need for more concerted and sustained national, regional and international action over the alarming levels of trafficking in women and girls,

Acknowledging the continuing work of Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in combating trafficking in women and girls through preventive education, information dissemination, research and the provision of shelters and programmes to rehabilitate and reintegrate survivors in society,

Deeply concerned with the increasing unabated use of new information technologies for purposes of prostitution, child pornography, paedophilia, sex tourism and trafficking in women as brides,

Convinced of the need to eliminate all forms of sexual violence and sexual trafficking, including for prostitution and other forms of commercial sex, and that sexual violence and sexual trafficking are violations of the human rights

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[34] See Report of the World Conference on Human Rights, Vienna, 14-25 June 1993 (A/CONF.157/24 (Part I)), chap. III.

[35] See Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[36] See Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6-12 March 1995 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[37] See Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[38] See Report of the Ninth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Cairo, 29 April-8 May 1995 (A/CONF.169/16).

of women and girl children and are incompatible with the dignity and worth of the human person,

Stressing the need for Governments to accord standard minimum humanitarian treatment to trafficked persons consistent with human rights standards,

1. Takes note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on the traffic in women and girls;[39]

2. Welcomes national, regional, and international efforts to implement the recommendations of the World Congress against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children,[40] and calls upon Governments to take further measures in that regard;

3. Also welcomes actions undertaken by Governments to implement the provisions on trafficking in women and girls contained in the Beijing Platform for Action[41] and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights,[34] and calls upon Governments, particularly those of countries of origin, transit and destination, as well as regional and international organizations, as appropriate, to undertake immediate action or to strengthen efforts in their implementation by:

(a) Considering the ratification and enforcement of international conventions on trafficking in persons and on slavery;

(b) Taking appropriate measures to address the root factors, including external factors, that encourage trafficking in women and girls for prostitution and other forms of commercialized sex, forced marriages and forced labour, so as to eliminate trafficking in women, including by strengthening existing legislation with a view to providing better protection of the rights of women and girls and to punishing perpetrators, through both criminal and civil measures;

(c) Stepping up cooperation and concerted action by all relevant law enforcement authorities and institutions with a view to dismantling national, regional and international networks in trafficking;

(d) Allocating resources to provide comprehensive programmes designed to heal and rehabilitate into society victims of trafficking, including through job training, legal assistance and confidential health care, and taking measures to

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[39] A/52/355.

[40] World Congress against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children, Stockholm, 27-31 August 1996, Final Report of the Congress, two vols. (Stockholm, Government of Sweden, January 1997).

[41] See Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

cooperate with non-governmental organizations to provide for the social, medical and psychological care of the victims of trafficking;

(e) Developing educational and training programmes and policies, and considering enacting legislation to prevent sex tourism and trafficking, giving special emphasis to the protection of young women and children;

4. Calls upon Governments to criminalize trafficking in women and girls in all its forms, to condemn and penalize all those offenders involved, including intermediaries, whether their offence was committed in their own or in a foreign country, while ensuring that the victims of those practices are not penalized, and to penalize persons in authority found guilty of sexually assaulting victims of trafficking in their custody;

5. Urges concerned Governments to support and allocate resources for programmes to strengthen preventive action, in particular education and campaigns to increase public awareness of the issue at the national and grass-roots levels, and programmes providing shelters and helplines to victims or potential victims;

6. Encourages Governments to develop systematic data-collection methods and to continuously update information on trafficking in women and girls, including the analysis of the modus operandi of trafficking syndicates;

7. Urges Governments to strengthen national programmes to combat trafficking in women and girls through sustained bilateral, regional and international cooperation, taking into account innovative approaches and best practices;

8. Invites Governments once again, with the support of the United Nations, to formulate training manuals for law enforcement and medical personnel and judicial officers who handle cases of trafficked women and girls, taking into account current research and materials on traumatic stress and gender-sensitive counselling techniques, with a view to sensitizing them to the special needs of victims;

9. Invites Governments and civil society, especially non-governmental organizations, to the extent consistent with freedom of expression, to promote the responsible use of new information technologies, in particular the Internet, to prevent trafficking in women and girls;

10. Invites States parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[28] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child[31] to include information and statistics on trafficking in women and girls as part of their national reports to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, taking into account the general recommendation of the Committee, and to the Committee on the Rights of the Child, respectively;

11. Invites the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on violence against women, the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, and the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery of the Subcommission on

Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities of the Commission on Human Rights, to continue addressing, within their respective mandates, the problem of trafficking in women and girls as a priority concern, and to recommend, in their reports, measures to combat such phenomena;

12. Encourages the Inter-Agency Committee on Women and Gender Equality to continue to address the issue as part of the integrated follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women;

13. Invites the Commission on the Status of Women, at its next session, to address the subject of the traffic in women and girls under the thematic issues on violence against women and human rights of women;

14. Invites the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Human Rights, at their sessions in 1998, to address trafficking in women and girls in connection with the five-year review of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action and in commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;[27]

15. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly, at its fifty-third session, on the implementation of the present resolution, in particular the implementation of the relevant provisions on trafficking in women and girls in the Beijing Platform for Action and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action.

DRAFT RESOLUTION VII

Traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls

The General Assembly,

Recalling:

(a) General Assembly resolution 843 (IX) of 17 December 1954, Economic and Social Council resolution 1997/24 of 21 July 1997, Commission on Human Rights decision 1997/108,[42] and Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities resolutions 1983/1, 1995/20, 1996/19 and E/CN.4/Sub.2/1997/L.15;

(b) The reports of the Special Rapporteur of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities on traditional practices affecting the health of women and children and of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on violence against women;

(c) The reports of the seminars on traditional practices affecting the health of women and children in Burkina Faso in 1991 and Sri Lanka in 1994, and

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[42] See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1997, Supplement No. 3 (E/1997/23), chap. II, sect. B.

the Plan of Action for the Elimination of Harmful Traditional Practices Affecting the Health of Women and Children;[43]

(d) The Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action[44] which proclaims, inter alia, that gender-based violence and all forms of sexual harassment and exploitation, including those resulting from cultural prejudice, are incompatible with the dignity and worth of the human person, and which stresses the importance of working towards the eradication of any conflicts which may arise between the rights of women and the harmful effects of certain traditional or customary practices;

(e) The Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,[45] which calls upon Governments and communities to urgently take steps to stop the practice of female genital mutilation and to protect women and girls from all such similar dangerous practices;

(f) The Beijing Declaration[46] and Platform for Action,[47] adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women, which, inter alia, calls upon Governments to enact and enforce legislation against the perpetrators of practices and acts of violence against women, such as female genital mutilation, female infanticide, prenatal sex selection and dowry-related violence, and to give vigorous support to the efforts of non-governmental and community organizations to eliminate such practices;

(g) The commitment of all States to fulfil their obligations to promote universal respect for and observance of all human rights and fundamental freedoms;

(h) Article 5 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[48] which provides that States Parties shall take all appropriate measures to modify the social and cultural patterns of conduct of men and women, with a view to achieving the elimination of prejudices and customary and all other practices which are based on the idea of the inferiority or the superiority of either of the sexes or on stereotyped roles for men and women, as reiterated in the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action;

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[43] E/CN.4/Sub.2/1994/10/Add.1 and Corr.1.

[44] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[45] See Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[46] See Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[47] Ibid., annex II.

[48] Resolution 34/180, annex.

(i) General recommendation 14 of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women[49] concerning female genital mutilation;

(j) Article 24 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[50] which provides that States Parties shall take all effective and appropriate measures with a view to abolishing traditional practices prejudicial to the health of children;

(k) The Ninth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, held at Cairo from 29 April to 8 May 1995, in particular its resolution 8 on the elimination of violence against women;[51]

(l) The extensive work of the Inter-African Committee on Traditional Practices affecting the Health of Women and Girls;

Reaffirming that traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls constitute a definite form of violence against women and girls and a serious form of violation of their human rights, and expressing concern at the continuing large-scale existence of such practices,

1. Welcomes:

(a) The progress achieved by a number of Governments in their struggle against harmful traditional or customary practices; in particular, against female genital mutilation and encourages the Governments in question to continue and increase their efforts aimed at the eradication of these practices;

(b) The work carried out by the Special Rapporteur of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities on traditional practices affecting the health of women and children;

(c) The joint World Health Organization, United Nations Children's Fund, United Nations Population Fund statement on female genital mutilation, which expresses a common purpose in supporting the efforts of Governments and communities to promote and protect the health and development of women and children by promoting awareness of the problem and by educating the public, health workers and those who carry out the practice, on all its health consequences;

(d) The appointment of a Special Ambassador for the Elimination of Female Genital Mutilation for the United Nations Population Fund;

(e) The efforts undertaken by the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Development Fund for Women

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[49] Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/45/38), para. 438.

[50] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[51] See A/CONF.169/16, chap. I.

and other United Nations bodies, programmes and organizations to raise awareness of this issue;

(f) The work carried out by non-governmental and community organizations in raising awareness of the harmful effects of female genital mutilation and other traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls;

(g) The fact that the Commission on the Status of Women will address the critical areas of concern "Violence against women", "The girl child" and "Human rights of women" at its session in 1998 and "Women and health" at its session in 1999, and invites the Commission to address the issue of harmful traditional or customary practices during those sessions;

2. Emphasizes:

(a) The need for Governments to analyse, from a gender perspective, all policies and programmes, particularly those relating to poverty, health and violence against women, with a view to assessing their implications for women and men;

(b) The need for national legislation and/or measures prohibiting harmful traditional or customary practices as well as for their implementation, inter alia, through appropriate measures against those responsible;

(c) The need to improve women's position in society and their economic independence;

(d) The importance of education and information dissemination in raising awareness in all sectors of society of the serious consequences of traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls and the responsibilities of Governments in this regard;

(e) The necessity of involving, among others, public opinion leaders, educators, religious leaders, medical practitioners, women's health and family planning organizations and the media in publicity campaigns, with a view to promoting a collective and individual awareness of the human rights of women and girls and of how harmful traditional or customary practices violate those rights;

(f) That information and education with regard to harmful traditional or customary practices should also be targeted at men and that they be encouraged to be responsive to such information and education;

(g) The importance of coordination between the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities and the relevant treaty bodies, the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on violence against women and the Commission on the Status of Women, including through exchange of information, and encourages them, within their respective mandates, to continue to pay attention to traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls;

(h) The need for financial and technical assistance for developing countries from United Nations funds and programmes, as well as from international and regional financial institutions and bilateral and multilateral donors, so as to assist Governments in combating such practices;

3. Calls upon all States:

(a) To implement their international commitments in this field, inter alia, under the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,[44] the Beijing Declaration[45] and Platform for Action,[47] the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development[45] and the Plan of Action for the Elimination of Harmful Traditional Practices Affecting the Health of Women and Children;[43]

(b) To ratify, if they have not yet done so, the relevant human rights treaties, in particular the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[49] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[50] and to respect and fully implement their obligations under the relevant human rights treaties to which they are parties, emphasizing the incompatibility between the continuation of these harmful traditional or customary practices and the obligations they have voluntarily undertaken through the ratification of such international human rights instruments;

(c) To include in their reports to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and to the Committee on the Rights of the Child specific information on measures taken to eliminate traditional or customary practices harmful to the health of women and girls;

(d) To intensify efforts to raise awareness of and to mobilize international and national public opinion concerning the harmful effects of female genital mutilation and other traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls, in particular through education, information dissemination and training, in order to achieve the total elimination of these practices;

(e) To develop and implement national legislation and policies prohibiting traditional or customary practices harmful to the health of women and girls, particularly female genital mutilation;

(f) To support women's organizations at the national and local levels that are working for the elimination of female genital mutilation and other traditional or customary practices harmful to the health of women and girls;

(g) To cooperate closely with the Special Rapporteur of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities on traditional practices affecting the health of women and children and to submit information on such practices with a view to enabling her to assess the progress achieved and obstacles encountered in applying the Plan of Action for the Elimination of Harmful Traditional Practices Affecting the Health of Women and Children;

(h) To cooperate closely with relevant United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies, such as the World Health Organization, the United

Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, as well as with relevant non-governmental and community organizations, in a joint effort to eradicate harmful traditional or customary practices affecting women and girls;

4. Decides:

(a) To invite the Commission on Human Rights to address this issue at its fifty-fourth session;

(b) To request the Secretary-General to make available to the Commission on Human Rights, at its fifty-fourth session, the outcome of the discussions in the Commission on the Status of Women on this issue, if necessary in the form of an oral report;

(c) To request the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution.

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33. The Third Committee also recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

Reports considered by the General Assembly in connection with the question of the advancement of women

The General Assembly takes note of the following reports:

(a) Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women;[52]

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;[53]

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on activities of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women.[54]

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[52] Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/52/38/Rev.1).

[53] A/52/337.

[54] A/52/352.